

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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INFO SECDEF DC/ISA/FMRA
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AFSC ANDREWS AF0 MD/FA
AFGL HANSCOM FLD
4950 TWG 'PAFB

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 034334

E.O. 11652:ADS - DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MARR, PE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR OPERATING RIGHTS IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT
1227

1. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK APPROVAL FROM GOP FOR THE PROPOSED
FLIGHT OPERATIONS DETAILED BELOW. THESE OPERATIONS ARE
IN SUPPORT OF THE AIR FORCE AVIONICS LABORATORY (AFAL)
PROJECT 1227, WHICH IS AN EXTENSIVE PROJECT TO DEVELOP
EXPERIMENTAL SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS HARDWARE. THE
PROJECT CONSISTS OF A SERIES OF TESTS TO EVALUATE THE
PERFORMANCE OF SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT UNDER
NORMAL, AS WELL AS DISTURBED PROPAGATION, IN ORDER TO
ASSESS THE RELIABILITY AND UTILITY OF SATELLITE COMMUNICA-
TIONS. THE TESTS WILL CONSIST OF RADIO TRANSMISSIONS
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THROUGH THE LINCOLN EXPERIMENTAL SATELLITES (LES) 8 AND 9
FROM AIRBORNE TEST AIRCRAFT AND/OR PERUVIAN GROUND STATIONS.
ONE OF THE DISTURBED PROPAGATION CONDITIONS BEING STUDIED
IS EQUATORIAL IONOSPHERIC FADING. IONOSPHERIC FADING
CAUSES DISTORTION OF RADIO WAVES AS THEY PROPAGATE THROUGH
THE EQUATORIAL IONOSPHERE. THIS DISTORTION TENDS TO

DISRUPT COMMUNICATIONS TO AND FROM SATELLITES FOR HOURS AT A TIME. IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THIS EFFECT ON WIDEBAND SPREAD SPECTRUM COMMUNICATIONS, TESTS ARE PLANNED FOR THE MARCH 1977 TIME FRAME ALONG THE MAGNETIC EQUATOR IN THE

VICINITY OF LIMA, HUANCAYO AND ANCON. AT THESE LOCATIONS PERUVIAN SCIENTISTS WILL BE TAKING IONOSPHERIC MEASUREMENTS FROM THE GROUND AT THE SAME TIME AIRCRAFT ARE CONDUCTING AIRBORNE MEASUREMENTS.

2. THE TEST FLIGHTS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A C-135B (707 TYPE) AIRCRAFT, U.S. AIR FORCE SERIAL NUMBER 61-2662. THE AIRCRAFT IS EQUIPPED FOR IONOSPHERIC RESEARCH INCLUDING THE LES 8/9 UHF/EHF SATELLITE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WHICH IS ALL OWNED BY THE USAF. THE CREW WILL CONSIST OF SIX USAF OFFICERS, FOUR USAF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, EIGHT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIANS AND SEVEN CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL. ALL ARE U.S. CITIZENS.

3. FLIGHTS IN PERU WILL OPERATE FROM JORGE CHAVEZ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. FOUR ROUND ROBIN FLIGHTS ARE PLANNED FOR A DURATION OF SIX HOURS EACH WITHIN A 50 MILE RADIUS OF HUANCAYO AND ANCON AT ALTITUDES BETWEEN FLIGHT LEVELS 280 AND 330. THE AIRCRAFT WILL ARRIVE AT JORGE CHAVEZ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON 14 MAR 77 AND DEPART 31 MAR 77. FLIGHTS ARE PLANNED ON 26 AND 30 MARCH WITH TENTATIVE FLIGHTS ON TWO OF THE FOLLOWING DAYS - 24, 25, 28 AND 29 MARCH. THE DECISION ON WHICH DAYS TO CONDUCT THE FLIGHTS WILL DEPEND ON OBSERVATION AND ASSESSMENT OF SCINTILLATION BY EITHER THE AIRCRAFT OR ANCON/
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HUANCAYO OBSERVATIONS. RADIO FREQUENCY CLEARANCE WILL BE OBTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AIR FORCE MANUAL 100-31.

4. THE PROJECT IS UNCLASSIFIED AND PROJECT TEST DATA WILL BE FURNISHED TO THE HOST NATION, IF DESIRED. AS WITH PREVIOUS 1227 PROJECTS, INTERESTED PERUVIAN SCIENTISTS AND DIGNITARIES MAY VISIT THE AIRCRAFT BETWEEN FLIGHTS IF THERE IS NO INTERFERENCE WITH SCHEDULED OPERATIONS. THIS PROJECT SUPPLEMENTS A CONTINUING COOPERATIVE PROJECT (7663) BETWEEN THE AIR FORCE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORIES (AFGL) AND THE INSTITUTE OF GEOPHYSICS OF PERU. FLIGHT OPERATIONS WILL BE CLEARED WITH THE U.S. DEFENSE ATTACHE, LIMA PRIOR TO ENTERING PERU, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE.

5. REGRET FAILURE TO MEET NORMAL LEAD TIME FOR THE REQUEST THE PROJECT WAS PREVIOUSLY CANCELLED BECAUSE THE REQUIRED AIRCRAFT ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WAS NOT FORECAST TO BE

AVAILABLE. THE MANUFACTURER COMPLETED THE EQUIPMENT AHEAD
OF SCHEDULE AND THE PROJECT WAS REINSTATED IN ORDER TO
OBTAIN MEASUREMENTS DURING AN ANTICIPATED PERIOD OF
MAXIMUM SCINTILLATION EFFECTS ON RADIO PROPAGATION FROM
23 TO 29 MARCH.

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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